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artsandhumanities

CULTURAL RESOURCES HANDBOOK SERIES

centralmassachusetts

Government Documents
Collection
JAN 14 1974
University of Massachusetts

Art Unlimited
624 Main Street
Worcester 01600
Lucy M. Wood
724-4256

"We are a retail and wholesale gallery selling both European and American painting, sculpture and watercolors, costing from $5 to $300. We have approximately 1500 paintings, more than any other gallery in the state. At request of any group, we will go out with 25 or 30 paintings and give a one and one-half hour lecture. We also arrange exhibitions at shopping malls and other public places."

Casdin Gallery
12 Lenox Street
Worcester 01602
Mrs. Joseph C. Casdin
757-1373

"We've tried to present to Worcester a first-rate contemporary art gallery. Have felt like a pioneer. We pay no attention to whether talent is local, state or national. We want to offer the best in contemporary art at a price a lot of people can pay; therefore, we offer good graphics."

Craft Center
25 Sagamore Road
Worcester 01605
Angelo Randazzo
753-8183

"Established as a non-profit educational institution in 1951, the Craft Center is dedicated to the promotion of education in the crafts of esthetic value and technical excellence. In 1958, a contemporary building was erected to house 8 fully-equipped studio workshops, exhibition gallery, library and a Craft Center Shop. The Shop acts as a vehicle to encourage sales and the continuance of craft work on a high professional level. Primarily an adult education center, offering day and evening courses in Design, Ceramics, Woodworking, Weaving, Metal/jewelry, Graphics, Furniture Restoration and Photography, the school also teaches a limited number of college level courses as part of the Worcester Consortium for Higher Education. Membership is open to all and offers films, lectures, demonstrations, special media workshops, changing exhibitions and an annual Craft Fair with more than 100 craftsmen invited to show and sell their work."

City Manager's Advisory Committee
on the Arts
City Hall
Worcester 01608
Mail: Norton Company
Worcester 01606
Donald R. Melville
853-1000

A local arts council advising the city on public art.

Fitchburg Art Museum
25 Merriam Parkway
Fitchburg 01420
Mason Dix Harris
345-4207

Permanent collection of furniture, decorative arts, prints, early portraits, contemporary American paintings; frequent loan exhibitions; annual regional exhibition.

Fruitlands Museum
Prospect Hill
Harvard 01451
W. H. Harrison
456-3924

"The Museum is open from May 30 to September 30, Tuesday through Sunday afternoons. It includes Fruitlands, an early 18th century farmhouse where Bronson Alcott and leaders of the Transcendental Movement attempted in 1843 a new social order, with a restored Colonial kitchen, antiques, Louisa May Alcott items; Old Shaker House, background for Shaker furniture, handcrafts, products of community industries; American Indian Museum with selection of prehistoric implements, arts and industries, dioramas; Picture Gallery, large collection of primitive American portraits and landscapes by painters of the Hudson River School and itinerant artists."

The Holden Experiment
480 Main Street
Holden 01520
Allen Bjorkman
829-3206

Workshops for children and adults in all artistic forms of expression, performances in a coffee, a gallery, and a craft shop.

Leominster Art Association
20 Haynes Court
Leominster 01453
Rocco Palmieri
537-0523

Association of artists.

Lunenburg Center for the Arts and Crafts
Main Street
Lunenburg
Mail: Northfield Road
Lunenburg 01462
Ethel Mann
582-4041

Workshops for all ages.

Petersham Craft Center
North Main Street
Petersham 01366
Mrs. Hope Streeter
724-3415

Workshops and gallery for all ages.

School of the Worcester Art Museum
55 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01608
Sante Graziani
752-4678

"The School is part of the Museum and is administered as one division of its activities. First classes were held in 1898 and instruction has been continuous since that time. A new building, designed by The Architects Collaborative of Cambridge, Massachusetts, was opened in the spring of 1970 and provides a completely modern environment for the pursuit of professional studies."

Sturbridge Art Association
Arnold Road
P. O. Box 551
Sturbridge 01566
Paul Mills
765-9408

"Founded in 1967 as an Arts and Crafts Center for the art oriented people of Southbridge, Sturbridge and surrounding towns of Massachusetts and Connecticut. The old Snellville School site was made available in 1968 by the Town of Sturbridge as headquarters for the Association, a non-profit organization. The Sturbridge Art Association provides its members with monthly programs from September to June. Trips to nearby museums, craft demonstrations and lectures by artists and craftsmen are designed to compliment the area's growing interest in the arts. Special exhibits, art classes and free workshops are arranged throughout the year at the Snellville Art Center. The first Arts and Crafts Show held in 1968, was an outstanding success and encouraged directors and members to continue the affair as an annual event."

Summer's World
Piedmont Citizens for Action
795 Main Street
Worcester 01610
Evangeline Tierney, Patricia Ewald
756-1921

Worcester's neighborhood cultural celebration offering wall murals, arts and crafts, street theatre, etc.

Worcester Art Museum
55 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01608
Richard Stuart Teitz
752-4678

"The Worcester Art Museum is a center of the arts for Worcester County, with programs of music, films, classes, and special loan exhibitions throughout the year. The extensive permanent collection consists of thirty-three galleries illustrating the evolution of art from early Egyptian civilization to modern times, with primary emphasis on painting and sculpture. The Museum has a three-year professional school, Sales and Rental Gallery, and Sales Desk. It offers art classes for all ages from preschool through senior citizen, tours for school and adult groups, and free public concerts, films, lectures, and gallery talks, as well as special membership activities."

Worcester Art Museum Film Society--
see Worcester Art Museum

Worcester Jewish Community Center
633 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01609
Toby L. Gold
756-7109

"Provides cultural, recreational and social services to the Jewish community of Worcester. Most cultural activities are open to the general public. Art exhibits, dramatic productions and concerts take place year-round."

Worcester Screen Study Center
Worcester State College
Chandler Street
Worcester 01602
Anthony W. Hodgkinson
643-3956, 756-5121, ext. 321

Amateur Workshop of Fitchburg
60 Wallace Avenue
Fitchburg 01420
Roger Congdon
343-3051, 342-7313

Community theatre.

Association of Community Theatres
22 Elma Circle
Shrewsbury 01545
Virginia Byrne
842-8519

A coordinating council of Worcester area community theatres.

Barre Players Club
High Street
Barre 01005
Mrs. Ruth Thompson
355-2515

Community theatre.

Clark University Orchestra
Clark University
Worcester 01600
793-7349

Student orchestra.

Entr'actors Guild, Inc.
One Cedar Street, Apt. 32
Worcester 01609
A. M. Shea
752-5046

Community theatre.

Fenwick Theatre
Holy Cross College
Worcester
793-2496

Student theatre group.

Foothills Theatre Company
Atwood Hall
Clark University
Worcester 01600
Marc P. Smith
793-7453

Summer professional theatre.

Harvard Players
Bolton Road
Harvard 01451
Kirtland Olson
456-3967

Community theatre.

High Tor Summer Theatre Foundation
Ashby West Road
Fitchburg 01420
Eugene Casassa
342-6592

"Personally originated, founded and built out of my own pocket (still carrying the original debt) High Tor is a resident company, accepting a few qualified students and presenting (we believe) one of the best programs of any theatre in New England."

The Holden Experiment
480 Main Street
Holden 01520
829-3206

Holden Players Club
24 Winthrop Lane
Holden 01520
Norman Pouliot

Community theatre.

Hopedale Little Theatre
17 Bancroft Park
Hopedale 01747
Mrs. Alan Luce
473-5878

Community theatre.

Jewish Community Center Drama Workshop
633 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01609
Toby L. Gold
756-7109

Community theatre.

Lake Whalom Playhouse
Lake Front, Whalom
Fitchburg 01420
Guy Palverton
345-4334

Summer theatre.

Mount Grace Players
88 Ridge Avenue
Athol 01331
David Cass
249-3873

Community theatre.

Shrewsbury Players Production Company, Inc.
57 Maple Avenue
Shrewsbury 01545
Jack E. Feldheimer
842-2241

Community theatre.

Southborough Players
P. O. Box 367
Southborough 01772
Joseph H. Credit
485-4114

Community theatre.

Summer's World
Piedmont Citizens for Action
795 Main Street
Worcester 01610
Evangeline Tierney, Patricia Ewald
756-1921

Worcester's neighborhood cultural celebration offering wall murals, arts and crafts, street theatre, etc.

Thayer Conservatory of Music
Atlantic Union College
South Lancaster 01561
Jon Robertson
365-4561, ext. 65

Performances and lectures.

Theatre Six
85 Crescent Street
Shrewsbury 01545
G. E. Deering, M. D.
842-2551

Community theatre.

Wesley Pretenders
Wesley United Methodist Church
114 Main Street
Worcester 01600
799-4191

Community theatre.

Westboro Players Guild
140 Northgate Road
Northborough
Mrs. Arnold Madeira
393-2365

Community theatre.

Winterset Dinner Theatre
281 Lunenburg Street
Fitchburg 01420
343-3316

Dinner theatre.

Worcester Auditorium
Worcester 01600
752-6703

Theatre facility.

Worcester Ballet Society
9 Barry Road
Worcester 01600
Jacob Young
754-7883

Worcester Children's Theatre
37 Lenox Street
Worcester 01602
Mrs. Austin Heath
757-0567

Community theatre for children.

Worcester Community Chorus
8 Elma Circle
Shrewsbury
Mrs. David Murray
842-8608

Worcester Community School of
the Performing Arts
90 Main Street
Worcester 01613
Mail: Box 491
Worcester 01613
Roberta Johnson
755-8246

Courses for children and adults;
a Guild music school.

Worcester County Light Opera
21 Grand View Avenue
Worcester 01613
Mail: P. O. Box 10
Worcester 01613
Jack Feldheimer
753-4383

Community opera.

Worcester Art Museum
55 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01608
Richard Stuart Teitz
752-4678

"The Worcester Art Museum is a center of the arts for Worcester County, with programs of music, films, classes, and special loan exhibitions throughout the year. The extensive permanent collection consists of thirty-three galleries illustrating the evolution of art from early Egyptian civilization to modern times, with primary emphasis on painting and sculpture. The Museum has a three-year professional school, Sales and Rental Gallery, and Sales Desk. It offers art classes for all ages from preschool through senior citizen, tours for school and adult groups, and free public concerts, films, lectures, and gallery talks, as well as special membership activities."

Worcester County Music Association
Memorial Auditorium
Worcester 01608
754-3231

"Feeling a need for cultural enrichment to broaden and deepen horizons, a few of Worcester's citizens led by banker and amateur musician Edward Hamilton, organized the first Worcester Music Festival in September of 1858. With its origin a choral workshop which culminated in concerts for the public, the Festival has grown and expanded through the decades to one of the outstanding musical events in the nation. It is the oldest Music Festival in the United States. In addition to the annual Worcester Music Festival each fall, the Association sponsors the Worcester Chorus, the Worcester Youth Orchestra and the Worcester Symphony Orchestra. Other programs include Affiliate Artists, Summer Concerts in the Park, and 'Music Alive,' a series of in-school concerts."

Worcester Junior Ballet
340 Main Street
Worcester 01609
Macey J. Goldman
791-3241

Producers of dance performances.

Worcester Orchestral Society, Inc.
321 Main Street
Worcester 01605
Dwight N. Vibbert
754-0849

Community orchestra.

Worcester Youth Orchestra of
Worcester County Music
Association
Memorial Auditorium
Worcester 01608
Harry Levenson
754-3231

American Antiquarian Society
185 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01609
Marcus McCorison
755-5221

"American Antiquarian Society was founded in 1812 by Isaiah Thomas as a learned society concerned with the history of America. Presently, membership is by election and numbers 250 persons. The Society has published scholarly work since 1813. The AAS maintains a research library specializing in American history and culture to the year 1877. Particular strength lies in American printed matter of all kinds for that period. The library also contains journals, bibliographies, and secondary works to support the rare book collections."

Ashburnham Historical Society
Ashburnham 01430
Mrs. John Hoye
827-4551

The Society maintains a historic house.

Athol Historical Society, Inc.
1307 Main Street
Athol 01331
Howard W. Cooke
249-3817

Barre Historical Society
Common Street
Barre 01005
Alice Roper
355-6614

"A local Society, incorporated in 1961, to collect and exhibit materials, particularly manuscripts, records, illustrated material, or articles pertaining to the history of the Town of Barre. The Society owns an 1836 Elias Carter (Architect) house erected 'on the common.' It is open to visitors from May 1 to October 1 on Thursday and Sunday afternoons and by special appointment. Meetings are held quarterly, at the headquarters mentioned above, to which the general public is always invited. Talks are given to schools, local organizations, and assistance is given to special research parties, either from local schools or colleges nearby. The Society also maintains a museum in the bottom or first story of its building where many of Barre's items can be viewed. It is operated by an all volunteer staff and run by funds raised through annual dues or special fund raising projects."

Clara Barton Birthplace
Clara Barton Road
North Oxford 01537

A property of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation, 25 Beacon Street, Boston 02108.

Berlin Art and Historical Collections
32 Brewer Road
Berlin 01503
Katherine Ann Bacon
838-2562

Blackstone Historical Commission
143 Elm Street
Blackstone 01504
Mary Petrowicz
883-9727

Bolton Historical Society
Main Street
Bolton 01740
Dorothy O. Mayo
779-2230

The Society maintains Sawyer House.

Boylston Historical Commission
Boylston 01505
835-6240

Clinton Historical Society
77 High Street
Clinton 01510

Fifth Meeting House
620 Main Street
Lancaster 01523
Dr. Alexander Ivanyi
366-2709

Fitchburg Historical Society
50 Grove Street
Fitchburg 01420
John Bosk
342-8250

The Society maintains a historic house.

The Forbush Tavern Preservation Committee
17 Kay Street
Westborough 01581
Robert E. Vigneau
366-2709

Fruitlands Museum
Prospect Hill
Harvard 01451
W. H. Harrison
456-3924

"The Museum is open from May 30 to September 30, Tuesday through Sunday afternoons. It includes Fruitlands, an early 18th century farmhouse where Bronson Alcott and leaders of the Transcendental Movement attempted in 1843 a new social order, with a restored Colonial kitchen, antiques, Louisa May Alcott items; Old Shaker House background for Shaker furniture, handcrafts, products of community industries; American Indian Museum with selection of prehistoric implements, arts and industries, dioramas; Picture Gallery, large collection of primitive American portraits and landscapes by painters of the Hudson River School and itinerant artists."

Grafton Historical Society
23 Upton Street
Grafton 01519
Norman M. Taft
839-4703

"Grafton Historical Society, Inc., a non-profit educational, historical and genealogical society dedicated to the gathering and preservation of the artifacts, history and genealogy of Grafton people. Acquisition and preservation of local historic sites and buildings together with demonstrable socio-economic growth of Grafton. Restoration of Willard House and Clock Shop. Authentic restoration of original 18th and early 19th century homestead (in rural countryside). Home furnished with original 18th century furnishings. Home and Clock Shop displays 11-14 original clocks and clock-making tools together with original drawings and patents of Willard clocks. Original portrait of Simon Willard (oil) and other Willard Family memorabilia as documented in John Ware Willard's book 'Simon Willard and His Clocks.'"

Hardwick Historical Society
Red Brick School
Hardwick 01037
Mail: P. O. Box 72
Hardwick 01037
Mrs. Ralph Day
477-6667

"Purpose of organizing: to collect, preserve and exhibit historical documents, mementos and furniture and artifacts; to record history; to stimulate in present generation interest in past history, old families, buildings, etc. We have an excellent collection, meet bi-monthly except in July and August, have 99 annual memberships and 50 life memberships which is the working capital consisting of annual dues and life membership interest as well as any donations by interested friends. Ours is a purely local organization, reaching out to former family members who come back to visit. Our rooms are open on Thursday afternoons from 2-4 p.m., with Mr. Ernest Ritter, Curator, in attendance."

Harvard Historical Society
Public Library
Harvard 01451
456-3941

The John Woodman Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Avenue
Worcester 01606
George H. Gage
853-6015

"To found and maintain an institution for the promotion of study and research of arms and armor; to provide and maintain buildings for the collection, preservation, and exhibition of works and objects of art illustrating the development thereof; to acquire, make and exhibit such and other works of art; to establish and maintain a library for research in connection thereof; to provide instruction in relation thereto; to hold and administer real and personal estate in furtherance of these purposes and in accordance with these aims; to include services to the general public determined as availability to the general public, as practicable, all the facilities of the museum and staff. Our area of special interest is the presentation of the history of Arms and Armor from 600 B.C. through 1897 A.D. Our objective is the development of interest in the field on the part of our educational institutions, elementary to post graduate study, as well as the interest of the general public. Our programs are concerned mostly with the lecture process but we are developing the visual, audio-visual techniques."

Holden Historical Society
51 High Ridge Road
Holden 01520
Dr. Louis Silveri
829-4810

Hugenot Memorial Society
Oxford
Mail: Henry Street
Manchester, Connecticut 06040
Mrs. Mary E. Mayo
203-646-5468

Lancaster Historical Commission
Harvard Road
Lancaster 01523
Mrs. Lee P. Farnsworth
365-5577

"The Historical Commission was established by vote of the 1964 Annual Town Meeting under the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 40, Section 8D, and its seven members are appointed by the Selectmen of the Town. We research all phases of the town's history with a plan to place historical markers and to mark homes. We inventory structures and sites for the information of the Massachusetts Historical Commission. We further the historical work of the town in any way possible."

Leominster Historical Society
17 School Street
Leominster 01453
Keith W. Laver
534-6963, 537-5424

"The Leominster Historical Society's object is the collection, preservation and study of historical matters pertaining to the City of Leominster and its inhabitants and we are willing to assist Leominsterites and others in learning of their heritage. Our Museum, 17 School Street, is open June through September on every Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m."

Little Red Shop
Draper Corporation
Hopedale Street
Hopedale 01747
473-0300

Textile company museum.

Lunenburg Historical Society
39 Beale Street
Lunenburg 01462
Mrs. Janice Carrier
582-4675

The Society maintains a house on School Street.

Narragansett Historical Society
Templeton Common
Templeton 01468
Charles Henshaw
939-8422

Northborough Historical Society
Main Street
Northborough 01532
Louise H. Benton
753-1074, 393-3600

"The objects of this Society shall be to collect and preserve the local and general history of Northborough and the genealogy of Northborough families; to make antiquarian collections and to insure the continuous adequate care of the collections and their accessibility and effective use for cultural and educational purposes."

Northbridge Historical Commission
Northbridge 01534

Old Sturbridge Village
Sturbridge 01566
Alexander J. Wall
347-3362

"Old Sturbridge Village is a carefully detailed re-creation of an early New England rural village of the period 1790-1840. Assembled from throughout New England are nearly 40 major buildings, includin homes, shops, meeting houses, a bank, schoolhouse, and other authen structures. The buildings are furnished with useful and decorative household objects, furniture and tools from the period. Special buildings house exhibits of clocks, guns, lighting devices, and glass. Costumed hosts and hostesses interpret exhibits for visitors. Opened in 1946, the Village is chartered as a non-profit educational institution. A professional staff administ major research, educational, and historical conservation programs."

Petersham Historical Society
North Main Street
Petersham 01366
Mrs. Donald Haines
724-3380

"Our work is concerned with local history. The Museum has some articl made in Petersham and others used by former residents. Our records are used by researchers in many areas -- high school, college, and genealogist Beside the Historical Building, we own 'Second East School,' built in 1848, and 'Underground Spring,' an underground room with stone walls. 'The House Book,' started before 1900 is of value to those who are renovati old houses. Changing exhibits are or display at the Historical Building."

Princeton Historical Society
Goodnow Library
Princeton 01541
464-2839

Quaboag Historical Society
Merriam Gilbert Public Library
Main Street
West Brookfield 01585

Quaker Meeting House Association
Quaker Highway, Route 146
Uxbridge
Mail: 751 Highland Street
Northbridge 01534
Peter Hackett
234-3816

"Historical monument - brick - 200 years old. Built by Quakers for Quakers as a 'Meeting House.' Open Saturday and Sunday afternoons, May 30 through September 30. Visited annually by fourth grade Uxbridge school children. Recently we have sponsored Essay Contests with token money prizes. Local historical societies are encouraged to hold meetings in our old meeting house. We sponsor Hymn Sings. Our big event is the annual Thanksgiving Service. Quaker silent religious services are held by Quakers from Worcester and elsewhere."

Second East School
East Street
Petersham 01366

A property of the Petersham Historical Society.

Shakerton Foundation, Inc.
Sherhan Road
Harvard 01451
Bayard Underwood

Shrewsbury Historical Society
232 Gulf Street
Shrewsbury 01545

Sterling Historical Commission
N Row #206
Lancaster 01523
Mrs. George O. Tapley

Sturbridge Auto Museum
Route 20
Sturbridge 01566
Mail: Box 486
Sturbridge 01566
Harold J. Kennaway
867-2217

"An educational exhibit of automobiles in the period 1897-1939, including steam, gas, electric, special interest, antique and classic cars. The evolution of the auto in America is described in a sufficiently non-technical manner so that it is understood and appreciated by women and children."

Sturbridge Military Museum
Box 116
Route 20
Sturbridge 01566
347-9283

Toy Cupboard Theatre & Museums
57 East George Hill Road
South Lancaster 01561
Herbert Hosmer

Racketty-Packetty House, South Lancaster, and puppet shows.

Universalist Historical Society
4 Robin Circle
Westborough 01581
Reverend Wyman A. Rousseau, Jr.

Uxbridge Historical Society
Box 82
Uxbridge 01569

Webster-Dudley Historical Society
Wakefield Street
Webster 01571

Westborough Historical Society
11 High Street
Westborough 01581

Winchendon Historical Society
Beals Memorial Library
Pleasant Street
Winchendon 01475
Mrs. Cranston D. Eldredge
297-0009

"The Society is primarily interested in local history and has a rather large collection of pictures, documents and maps; items of every description connected with local families, genealogical information, town records; tools and information connected with local industries; also historical books of general interest. The Museum is located in Beals Memorial Library. It is open to the public certain hours in the summer and at other times by appointment."

Worcester County Horticultural Society
30 Elm Street
Worcester 01608
Harlan T. Pierpont, Jr.
752-4274

"Incorporated in 1842, the Worcester County Horticultural Society operates as an educational organization for the purpose of advancing the knowledge and science of Horticulture. Periodically, throughout the year, exhibitions of gardens, flowers, fruits and vegetables are staged. Participation is encouraged by all ages. Many prizes and awards are offered with two special Young People's Shows in July and August. Periodic lectures, field trips and instructional courses are offered. The Society maintains a fine Horticultural library specializing in fruit, open free to the public weekdays. Membership is $5 annually and solicited. A bi-monthly newsletter with calendar of events is issued."

Worcester Heritage Society
19 Metcalf Street
Worcester 01609
Mrs. John F. Reynders

Worcester County Poetry Association
P. O. Box 16
Worcester 01613
Dr. Samuel Bachrach
755-7794

Worcester Historical Society
39 Salisbury Street
Worcester 01608
John Herron

Worcester Natural History Society--
see Worcester Science Center

Worcester Science Center
Harrington Way
Worcester 01604
Kurt Edvin-Edgren
791-9211

"The Worcester Science Center is an all-under-one-roof concept which opened to the public in 1971. It provides a Science Museum, Omnisphere, Woodland Gardens, and the beginnings of Botanical and Zoological Gardens. Specific programming is given as well. Groups may plan ahead and make reservations with the Center. This exciting complex is unusual in its approach to education. All exhibits are based on participation and/or stimulating the natural senses. Exhibits are both natural and physical science in the three-story Edward Durell Stone designed building. The Center is open seven days a week. It is closed New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day."

West Brookfield Bandstand Music
Committee
P.O. Box 557
West Brookfield 01585
Jean Ober Magnante
867-6675

Outdoor concerts on the West
Brookfield Town Common.